



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Children and Family Services

At its meeting held July 22, 2003, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“According to a recent article in the Los Angeles Daily Journal, two young children were sexually, physically and emotionally abused while under the care of the Department of Children and Family Services. Many critics have complained that foster care placement is often worse than the homes where the children were taken.

“The article also indicates that one of the children may be receiving improper medication, Paxil, a drug often used to treat depression and other disorders. Last month, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued an alert that Paxil could cause suicidal behavior when given to children and recommends that Paxil not be used to treat depressed children.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Director of Children and Family Services was instructed to:

1. Report back to the Board within 14 days with a case history regarding the two young children, who according to a recent article in the Los Angeles Daily Journal dated July 16, 2003, were sexually, physically and emotionally abused while under the care of the Department; and

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2. Include a permanent placement plan for the children, and any actions taken to address the concerns raised by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration regarding the use of the drug Paxil for young children.

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